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By the Lords Justices,

A PROCLAMATION.

Tho. Cantuar. J. Sommers C. S. Pembroke C. P. S. Shrewsbury.

WHereas by an Act made the last Session of Parliament, Intituled, An Act for the Encrease and Encouragement of Seamen, It was, amongst other things, Enacted, That all and every able Mariner, Seaman, Waterman, Fisherman, Lighterman, Bargeman, Keelman, or Seafaring man, being a Natural Subject of this Realm, or of any of His Majesty's Dominions, or being Naturalized or made a Denizen, and above the Age of Eighteen, and under the Age of Fifty Years, and being capable of Sea Service, who should be willing to Enter himself for the Service of His Majesty and His Successors in His or Their Fleet or Navy, should by himself or any other Person by him thereunto in Writing Authorized, give in his Christian Name and Sirname, and proper Addition, together with his Age and Place of Abode, unto such Officer at the Navy Office in London, or other Place, and in such manner as should be appointed by His Majesty and His Successors: by which Registring himself, such Person will become Intituled to several great Privileges and Advantages in the said Act mentioned; And by the said Act it is provided, for the better Support of the Hospital in the said Act mentioned for the Relief of Seamen, their Widows and Children, there should be paid out of the Wages of every Seaman, Serving in any of His Majesty's Ships, or in any of His Subjects Ships, Sixpence a Month, to be Collected, Levied and Recovered by such Officers, and according to such Rules as should in that behalf be appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; And it is provided likewise, That every Seaman, at the time of his being Registred, shall bring a Certificate of his Place of Abode, under the Hands of two Justices of the Peace of the County or Place where he lives, and to bring a like Certificate, as often as he changes the Place of his Abode, to the Register, on the Penalty of losing the Benefit of his being Registred: Now for putting the said Act in Execution, We have thought fit, by the Advice of His Majesty's Privy Council to Issue this Proclamation, to give Notice that the Head Office for Registring Seamen according to the said Act, is kept on Tower-hill in London, where all Persons qualified by the said Act, may Register themselves according to the Directions thereof; and that the Collectors of His Majesty's Customs in the respective Ports of this Realm (except the Port of London) are appointed to be the Registers for the Purposes aforesaid, in their respective Ports, and for all Places adjacent to the same. And to the end the Persons who are to Pay the Sixpence a Month out of the Seamens Wages may know to whom to Pay the same, We have thought fit to give Notice, that the Collectors of His Majesty's Customs in all Ports (except for the Port of London) are Appointed to be Receivers of the said Duty, for the Wages of all Seamen, in any Ship arrived in the said Port, or any Creek or Haven thereunto belonging. And that William Bathurst Esq; who is Resident near the Custom-House in London, is Appointed Collector of the said Duty for the Wages of all Seamen, in any Ship arriving at the said Port of London, or any Creek or Haven belonging to the same. And for the better Recovering the said Duty, The Masters of every Ship or Vessel, are to stop the Sixpence a Month out of every Seaman's Wages they Pay, and to Account for and Pay the same, as is herein before directed. And lastly, to the end that no Seaman may be ignorant of what is expected from him, on or after his Registring himself, We have thought fit hereby to give Notice, That in his Certificate from the Justice of the Peace, the Name, Age, Description of the Person as well as Place of Abode of every Seaman be expresst, and at or near what Sign or Remarkable Place he lives, and if a Lodger his Landlords Name: And that a like Certificate be brought as often as he shall remove. And that on such Seamans going to or returning from Sea, that he gives Notice to the Register of the Port or Place where he is Registred; for which said several Certificates from the Register, or the Justices of the Peace, no Fee or Reward whatsoever is to be given by the said Person or Persons so Registring or Removing him or themselves as aforesaid.

Given at the Council Chamber in *Whitehall*, the Tenth Day of *August*, 1696. In the Eighth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

AND whereas by the Act of Parliament mentioned in the above Proclamation, it is provided, That all Seamen and Seafaring Men to be Registred as aforesaid, who are or shall be Inhabitants within any of the Cinque-Ports, their Towns and Members shall and may be Registred by such Officer or Officers, and at such Place or Places within the said Ports, and in such Manner as shall for that purpose be Appointed and Nominated by the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports for the time being; or in case there be no Lord Warden, or in his Absence, by the Lieutenant of Dover Castle for the time being. Now for the better putting the same in Execution, the Lord Warden of the said Cinque Ports does hereby give Notice, That the Head Office for the Registring of Seamen as aforesaid, is kept at the Town and Port of Dover, where all Persons, being Inhabitants within the said Ports, and qualified by the said Act, may Register themselves for the Service of His Majesty in His Royal Navy; And that the Collectors of His Majesty's Customs in the respective Ports of Hastings, Seaford and Rye in Sussex; Romney Hyeth, Folkestone, Deale, Sandwich, Romesgate, Margare and Feversham in Kent, being within the said Cinque Ports, except the said Port of Dover, are appointed to be the Registers for the purposes aforesaid in their respective Ports, and for all Places adjacent to the same. And to the end that no such Seaman may be ignorant of what is expected from him on or after his Registring himself, Notice is hereby further given, That every such Seaman at the time of his being Registred is to bring the like Certificate to such Register as aforesaid, and at such other times of his removal or going to or returning from Sea, and